Medium of instruction in Kendriya Vidyalaya

383. SHRI R PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being contemplated by Government to ensure that education is also imparted in English medium in Kendriya Vidyalayas along with Hindi medium;

(b) whether there is a provision for a separate section for those who intend to take education in English medium in Kendriya Vidyalayas imparting education in Hindi medium; and

(c) how does a Principal of K.V decide upon the medium of instruction for the school; has the principal of K.V, IN A taken the choice of students as to the medium of instruction in the school; if so, how and if not, why?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b)The medium of instruction in Kendriya Vidyalayas is English in all subjects except social studies, which is being taught in Hindi medium. It has also been decided to give option to the students to study Social Studies through English medium if at least 20 students are available. Children wanting to study Social Studies in Hindi would continue to be taught through Hindi medium.

(c) Kendriya Vidyalayas decide the medium of instruction for the schools by obtaining the options from the children. Principal, Kendriya Vidyalaya INA took the choice of the children through the class teachers for opting English medium for Social Studies.

Financial assistance to States for Mid-Day Meal Scheme

384. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allocate 100 per cent financial assistance to State Governments for Mid-Day Meal Scheme for children in all schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Under the National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (NP-NSPE), popularly known as Mid-Day Meal Scheme, the Central Government provides foodgrains free of cost and admissible transportation charges for children studying at primary levels in Government, local bodies, Government aided schools and centres opened under Education Guarantee Scheme and other alternative schooling programme.

At present it is no possible to provide further assistance to States/ UTs unless adequate funds are made available for the Scheme during the current plan.

Deemed universities

†385. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of deemed universities at present; State-wise;

(b) the basic requirements for giving recognition k institutions as deemed universities;

(c) the basic differences between deemed universities and general universities; and

(d) whether the Ministry has relaxed guidelines for recognising institutions as deemed universities; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) A State-wise list of existing Deemed Universities is enclosed at Statement-I (Seebelow).

(b) Basic requirements for granting Deemed to be University status are indicaed in Statement-ll (See below).

(c) A Central/State University is established or incorporated under a Central Act/State Act whereas Deemed University Status is conferred on an institution of higher education under Section 3 of UGC Act, 1956 by the Government of India on the recommendations of UGC.

(d) The UGC guidelines for considering proposals in this regard, stipulate, *inter alia,* that in case the institution is offering a degree/diploma, in professional subject(s), the academic programme(s) should be

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.